United Nations A/57/6 (Prog. 19)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
22 May 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Programme 19
Human rights

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).

2. Regulation 4.13 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as necessary to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by intergovernmental organs and international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 proposed in the annex are as follows: modification of the overall orientation (para. 19.1) and of subprogramme 1.

4. These revisions reflect new mandates resulting from the Millennium Declaration and from General Assembly resolution 56/253, whereby, in paragraph 126, the Assembly noted that resources proposed for activities related to the right to development, research and analysis were not clearly differentiated in subprogramme 1, and requested the Secretary-General to submit concrete proposals to address that issue in the context of the revisions of the medium-term plan to be considered by the Committee for Programme and Coordination.

5. Pursuant to that request and in order to continue to ensure as much as possible the integrated treatment of all human rights under subprogramme 1, it is proposed to divide that subprogramme in two parts: A. Right to development, and B. Research and analysis. The same programmatic presentation would be followed in section 22, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, which will be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, in 2003.

02-39592 (E) 310502

6. The proposed revisions consist of grouping the narrative in old paragraphs 19.4 to 19.8 under part A or part B, as relevant, and of including additional references to General Assembly resolutions 55/2 and 56/95 on the United Nations Millennium Declaration and follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.

7. The medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000 and issued as document A/55/6/Rev.1. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 is contained in documents A/56/6 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 (Introduction, sects. 1-33 and Income sects. 1-3). It was revised and approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 56/253 and 56/254 of 24 December 2001.

8. In the proposed revisions, new text to be inserted appears in boldface type, and text to be deleted appears in strikeout type. An explanation of the changes is provided in italic type within brackets.

Annex

Proposed revisions to programme 19, Human rights

Overall orientation

19.1 The purpose of the United Nations human rights programme is to promote universal enjoyment of all human rights by giving practical effect to the will and resolve of the world community as expressed by the United Nations. Its mandate derives from Articles 1, 13 and 55 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III) and subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/121 of 20 December 1993, the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as defined in Assembly resolution 48/141 of the same date, international human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations and the resolutions and decisions of policy-making bodies, **including, in particular, General Assembly resolutions 55/2 on the United Nations Millennium Declaration and 56/95 on the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.** The programme is based on the principles and recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. [*changed to reflect new mandates*]

Subprogramme 1
Right to development, research and analysis

A. Right to development [*New*]

Objectives and strategy

19.4 The primary objectives of this subprogramme will include the promotion and protection of the right to development. In this regard, the objectives will be to develop an integrated and multidimensional strategy for the implementation, coordination and promotion of the right to development in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development (General Assembly resolution 41/128, annex) and subsequent mandates and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, aimed at facilitating action to be taken by relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including treaty bodies, international development and financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights, ensuring the realization of the right to development across the human rights programme and by specialized agencies and United Nations treaty bodies; to promote national implementation of the right to development through coordination with State-appointed officials; to identify obstacles at the national and international levels; and to promote awareness about the content and importance of the right to development, including through information and educational activities.

Expected accomplishments

19.5 ~~19.6~~ Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:

(a) Wider integration and/or inclusion of the promotion and protection of the right to development, in particular across the human rights programme and the relevant programmes of work of the United Nations departments and/or offices and specialized agencies and of major international organizations and forums related to this issue;

(b) Major strengthening of coordination for human rights across the United Nations system, leading to a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on the contribution of each of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights and also based on improved inter-agency cooperation and coordination;

(c) ~~(d)~~ Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development.

Measurements of achievement

19.6 ~~(19.7)~~ Measures of achievement are elements used as tools for determining, where possible, the extent to which the objectives and/or expected accomplishments have been achieved.

19.7 ~~(19.8)~~ Measures of achievement of the Secretariat would include:

(a) The extent to which the right to development had been included in the work programmes of the departments and offices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, providing compiled examples of concrete steps in that regard;

(b) The extent to which the mandates given to the Secretariat contained in resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, **including most recently resolutions 55/2 and 56/95 on the Millennium Declaration and on the follow-up to its outcome, as well as in resolutions and decisions adopted by** the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights had been fulfilled; [*changed to reflect new mandates*]

(c) The holding of seminars and workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, or in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme;

(d) The extent to which the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner contributed to increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding in order to advance the full realization of the right to development, in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development.

B. Research and analysis [*new*]

Objectives and strategy

19.8 ~~(19.5)~~ With regard to research and analysis, the objectives will be to strengthen respect for human rights by increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding of human rights issues through data collection, research and analysis. These objectives will be pursued within the framework of the indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and will be aimed at facilitating the implementation of standards, the work of treaty bodies, special rapporteurs and other bodies and the preparation of new standards; ensuring the recognition on the national and international levels of economic, social and cultural rights; promoting democracy and strengthening national human rights institutions and procedures for the rule of law; contributing to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and new forms of discrimination; and strengthening the recognition of the human rights of women and children and the protection of vulnerable groups such as minorities, migrant workers and indigenous people.

Expected accomplishments

19.9 ~~(19.6)~~ Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:

(a) ~~(b)~~ Major strengthening of coordination for human rights across the United Nations system, leading to a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on the contribution of each of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights and also based on improved inter-agency cooperation and coordination;

(b) ~~(c)~~ Strengthened efforts that will contribute to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(c) ~~(d)~~ Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development;

(d) ~~(e)~~ Wider recognition of the rights of women, children and persons belonging to minorities, migrant workers, indigenous people and persons with disabilities, and strengthening the protection of vulnerable groups.

Measurements of achievement

19.10 ~~(19.7)~~ Measures of achievement are elements used as tools for determining, where possible, the extent to which the objectives and/or expected accomplishments have been achieved.

19.11 ~~(19.8)~~ Measures of achievement of the Secretariat would include:

(a) ~~(b)~~ The extent to which the mandates given to the Secretariat contained in resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, **including most recently resolutions 55/2 and 56/95 on the Millennium Declaration and on the follow-up to its outcome, as well as in resolutions and decisions adopted by** the Economic and Social Council and the

Commission on Human Rights had been fulfilled; [*changed to reflect new mandates*]

(b) ~~(e)~~ The holding of seminars and workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, or in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme;

(c) ~~(e)~~ An increased number of visitors to the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner;

(d) ~~(f)~~ The number of new publications of the Office of the High Commissioner as well as their distribution, and the assessment by users of their quality and usefulness.

Legislative mandates

Programme 19
Human rights

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	**United Nations Millennium Declaration**
56/95	**Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit**
~~**55/107**~~ **56/151**	Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order
~~**55/101**~~ **56/152**	Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of humanitarian character
~~**54/174**~~ **56/153**	Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity
~~**54/168**~~ **56/154**	Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes **as an important element for the promotion and protection of human rights** (subprogrammes 1 and 3)
~~**54/173**~~ **56/159**	Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization (subprogrammes 1 and 3)
~~**55/102**~~ **56/165**	Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights
56/266	**Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance**

Subprogramme 1
Right to development, research and analysis

General Assembly resolutions

~~**54/149**~~ **56/138**	The rights of the child
~~**54/148**~~ **56/139**	The girl child
~~**54/150**~~ **56/140**	International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
~~**54/155**~~ **56/141**	Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination
~~**55/89**~~ **56/143**	Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
~~**54/173**~~ **56/148**	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

~~54/181~~ 56/149	Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights
~~54/175~~ 56/150	The right to development
56/155	The right to food
~~54/160~~ 56/156	Human rights and cultural diversity
~~54/159~~ 56/157	Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance
~~54/164~~ 56/160	Human rights and terrorism
~~54/163~~ 56/161	Human rights in the administration of justice
~~54/162~~ 56/162	Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities
~~55/98~~ 56/163	Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
~~54/167~~ 56/164	Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons
~~55/102~~ 56/165	Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights
56/168	Comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities
~~55/92~~ 56/170	Protection of migrants
~~55/86~~ 56/232	Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination
~~54/154~~ 56/265	Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination ~~and the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance~~
~~54/153~~ 56/267	Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Economic and Social Council decision

~~1999/12~~ 2001/245	Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Commission on Human Rights resolutions

~~2000/10~~ 2001/25	The right to food
~~2000/82~~ 2001/27	Effects of structural adjustment policies and foreign debt on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights
~~2000/36~~ 2001/40	Question of arbitrary detention

~~2000/38~~ 2001/47	The right to freedom of opinion and expression
~~1999/40~~ 2001/48	Traffic in women and girls
~~2000/46~~ 2001/50	Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system
~~2000/61~~ 2001/64	Human rights defenders
~~2000/62~~ 2001/65	Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order
~~1999/61~~ 2001/68	Question of the death penalty
~~1999/34~~ 2001/70	Impunity
~~1999/65~~ 2001/112	Fundamental standards of humanity

Subprogramme 2
Supporting human rights bodies and organs

General Assembly resolutions

~~54/157~~ 56/144	International Covenants on Human Rights
~~55/88~~ 56/145	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

Commission on Human Rights resolution

~~2000/46~~ 2001/50	Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system

Subprogramme 3
Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities

General Assembly resolutions

~~54/176~~ 56/158	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights
~~54/180~~ 56/166	Human rights and mass exoduses
~~54/161~~ 56/167	United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education~~, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights~~
~~54/151~~ 56/232	Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination